

ABSTRACT

LIGHTNING PROTECTION APPARATUS AND METHOD

A deployable lightning protection apparatus particularly suited for use with an aircraft radome comprises; a source of electrically conducting fluid (5); a delivery means (3,4,7) for delivering the conducting fluid to the surface of the radome prior to a lightning strike; a control means (1,2) for controlling the delivery means; and means for directing the conducting fluid across the outer surface of the radome thereby providing a conductive channel for the passage of electrical current resulting from a lightning strike and dissipating said current without damage to the radome. The apparatus allows lightning protection to be deployed in response to a change in atmospheric conditions indicative of a high probability of lightning strike and removed when the danger of lightning strike has passed.

[Figure 1]